

EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 18-33 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The closest prior art of record, Milocco, fails to teach or reasonably suggest the claimed invention. Specifically, Milocco discloses a dishwasher comprising, *inter alia*, a sump housing including a heater. However, Milocco fails to teach or reasonably suggest the claimed dishwasher comprising, *inter alia*, a sump housing with first and second bottom surfaces and the second bottom surface defining a heater receiving portion while being lower than the first bottom surface, as claimed in independent claims 18 and 25.
3. For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 18 and 25 (and claims dependent thereon) are believed to recite patentable subject matter.
4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph L. Perrin whose telephone number is (571)272-1305. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-4:30.

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6. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael E. Barr can be reached on (571)272-1414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

7. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Joseph L. Perrin/
Joseph L. Perrin
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1711

JLP